

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
DIV of USSN 09/000,442

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 7. (Amended) A method for the regulated growth of a mammalian host cell in a culture medium, comprising the step of:
culturing said mammalian host cell in said culture medium, wherein said host cell includes:

(i) at least one introduced DNA sequence encoding a protein, polypeptide and/or peptide factor(s) required for growth of the host cell in said culture medium operably linked to a promoter sequence, the expression of which is regulated by a repressor binding region; and

(ii) at least one introduced DNA sequence encoding a repressor molecule which binds to the repressor binding region, operably linked to an inducible promoter sequence.

Claim 11. (Amended) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the DNA sequence(s) encoding the protein, polypeptide and/or peptide growth factor(s) encodes a growth factor(s) selected from the group consisting of insulin, modified insulins, insulin-like growth factors, cytokines, mitogenic proteases and mixtures thereof.

Claim 14. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the culture medium is protein/serum-free medium.

Claim 15. (Amended) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the mammalian host cell is a Chinese hamster ovary cell.

Claim 16. (Amended) A method according to Claim 15, wherein the mammalian host cell is a CHO-K1 cell.

Claim 22. (Amended) A host cell including:

(i) at least one introduced DNA sequence encoding a protein, polypeptide and/or peptide factor(s) required for growth of the

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host cell in a protein/serum-free culture medium operably linked to a promoter sequence, the expression of which is regulated by a repressor binding region; and

(ii) at least one introduced DNA sequence encoding a repressor molecule which binds to the repressor binding region, operably linked to an inducible promoter sequence.

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Claim 26. (Amended) A host cell according to Claim 22, wherein the DNA sequence(s) encoding the protein, polypeptide and/or peptide growth factor(s) encodes a growth factor(s) selected from the group consisting of insulin, modified insulins, insulin-like growth factors, cytokines, mitogenic proteases and mixtures thereof.

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Claim 29. (Amended) A host cell according to Claim 22, wherein the mammalian host cell is a Chinese hamster ovary cell.

Claim 30. (Amended) A host cell according to Claim 29, wherein the mammalian host cell is a CHO-K1 cell.

REMARKS

Claims 7-16 and 22-30 are directed to the invention which was non-elected in Parent Application Serial No. 09/000,442 (see the Office Action dated May 24, 2000 and Restriction Requirement dated June 26, 2000 in said Parent Application).

The specification has been amended to refer to Parent Application Serial No. 09/000,442, to correct typographical errors with respect to the figure designations and to insert sequence ID numbers therein.

Claims 6, 11, 14-16, 26 and 29-30 have been amended to correct their improper multiple dependency.